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In the Claims

- 1. (currently amended) A tile protector platform assembly comprising:
 - a) a horizontal floor surface;
- b) freshly laid floor tiles on said floor surface, said floor tiles having spaces therebetween for receiving grout;
- c) a <u>phirality of horizontal platforms</u> platform above and spaced from said tiles;
- d) <u>each</u> said platform comprising a plurality of flat members each having a distributed pattern of spaced apertures,
 - e) said apertures being threaded;
- f) a plurality of threaded, downwardly extending posts threaded through selected ones of said apertures located above said spaces whereby bottom ends of said posts rest for support on said floor surface between said tiles; and
- g) said <u>platforms</u> flat members being distributed and spaced above said tiles whereby a user can walk on said <u>platforms</u> flat members while not disturbing said tiles and are easily removed allowing grouting to be applied to said spaces.
 - 2-5. (canceled)
- 6. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly of Claim 1, wherein each said <u>platform member</u> is rectangular shaped.
- 7. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly of Claim 6, wherein said posts are disposed on corners of said rectangular shaped <u>platforms</u> members.
- 8. (currently amended) The tile protector platform assembly of Claim 7, further comprising a non-slip material being disposed on upper surfaces of said <u>platforms</u> members.
 - 9. (currently amended) A tile protector platform combination comprising:
 - a) a horizontal floor surface;

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- b) freshly laid floor tiles on said floor surface, said floor tiles having spaces therebetween for receiving grout;
- c) a <u>plurality of horizontal platforms</u> above and spaced from said tiles;
- d) <u>each said platform being comprising a plurality of flat members;</u> and
- e) a plurality of pre-punched tabs disposed on said <u>platforms</u> members, a selected number of said tabs being bent downwardly so as to extend away from lower surfaces of said <u>platforms</u> members and rest on said floor surface between said tiles to maintain said platforms above and spaced from said floor tiles and enable a user to walk on said <u>platforms</u> without disturbing said tiles.

10-11. (canceled)

- 12. (currently amended) The <u>tile protector platform combination</u> apparatus of Claim 9, wherein said <u>platforms</u> members are rectangular shaped.
- 13. (currently amended) The tile protector platform combination of Claim 12, wherein said tabs are disposed on corners of said rectangular shaped platforms members.
- 14. (currently amended) The tile protector platform combination of Claim 13, further comprising a non-slip material being disposed on upper surfaces of said <u>platforms</u> members.